EXHIBIT

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BUREAU OF WATER PROTECTION AND LAND REUSE
OFFICE OF THE BUREAU CHIEF

## John L. Smith 25B Harbour Village Branford, CT 06405-4492 e-mail: johnlsmith@comcast.net January 20, 2010

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Mr. Paul Stacey Bureau of Water Protection, DEP 79 Elm St. Hartford, CT 06106

Dear Mr. Stacey:

As a concerned Connecticut resident, I am writing to express my opposition to sections of the proposed "Streamflow Standards and Regulations." In particular I am concerned about the Class 4 regulations which would essentially remove any such stream or river or portion thereof from future consideration for environmental rehabilitation and recovery. I urge that this classification be removed from the proposed "Streamflow Standards and Regulations."

At the very least, should this classification be adopted, all such waterways place in that category should be reviewed on a periodic basis for possible removal from the category with the stated goal of rehabilitation for all waterways in the state.

I am particularly concerned about the placement of the Quinnipiac River in this category. Much has been done in recent years to rehabilitate it and other waterways and the imposition of Class 4 category would essentially freeze it in its current state and make any future improvements impossible. Since the lower part of the river would be placed in Class 4, this will perpetuate the healthy recovery of the upstream portion of that river and continue to allow the polluted condition to in effect block certain migratory species between the river and Long Island Sound.

Regards, John L. Smith